

Westwood News

Fall 2011



Westwood Neighborhood Association Board

Kristy Barzen, President
kbarzen@aol.com
274-6263

Mike Keller, Vice President
Mrk515@gmail.com
707-2764

Secretary - to be filled

Ed Truslow, Treasurer -
ed@ampiowa.com
277-1608

Brad Sammon, Immediate Past President
bjsammon@msn.com
883-0616

Save the Date!!

The Westwood Neighborhood 2012 Winter Gala will be at the Art Center on January 26 from 6 - 8:30 p.m.

An abbreviated WNA Board Meeting will be held from 6 - 6:30 p.m.; all are welcome to participate.

From 6:30 - 8:30 there will be hors d'oeuvres, music, and a cash bar. The Art Center will be open until 9 p.m.

Westwood Chili Supper and Annual Meeting is coming soon!

Please join neighbors for a chili supper and the Westwood Neighborhood Association Annual Meeting. This fun gathering and free dinner will be held **Tuesday, October 18th, at 6:30 p.m.** at Hanawalt Elementary School in Weitz Commons.

Dinner will be provided and will include chili, cinnamon rolls, and drinks. This annual gathering is a great way to get to know neighbors and to learn about your Westwood Neighborhood Association. All ages are welcome.

After dinner and conversation with neighbors, we will hear from several speakers:

- **Andrew Burg**, Hanawalt Principal - update on Hanawalt and their use of last year's Westwood donation to the technology center.
- **Alex Hanna**, Merrill Principal -

updates on the construction work that took place this summer. Merrill is an International Baccalaureate school. He will share more what this means to the students at Merrill.

- **Ben Cole**, engineer with the City of Des Moines - updates on the upcoming construction on Grand Avenue at the Walnut Creek bridge.
- **Lieutenant Joe Gonzalez**, Westwood neighborhood police liaison, will speak about his role as neighborhood liaison and how we can help him and how he can help us.

Hope to see you on October 18th for the Chili Supper and Annual Meeting.

Westwood Neighborhood Association Information

The Westwood Neighborhood Association is an all-volunteer organization and welcomes the participation of any and all neighbors. At the upcoming Annual Meeting we will accept nominations and vote to fill the positions of Secretary and also Treasurer. The Association will be saying a sad farewell to Treasurer Ed Truslow as he completes his third year on the board in the position, requiring replacement under WNA by-laws. Ed, his graciousness, and his meticulous work will certainly be missed by all involved in the Association. Ed's term as Treasurer is the only position that is

expiring, but if you have an interest in one of the other positions and want your name put in for nomination, just let an existing board member know.

Candidates to be considered at the Annual Meeting:

President - Kristy Barzen (incumbent-final year)
Vice President - Mike Keller (incumbent-final year)
Secretary - Nominee: Maria Sadden-Berry
Treasurer - Nominee: Viki Sehgal

Association Meetings

The Westwood Neighborhood Association and its board meet at 7 p.m. at Hanawalt Elementary School in the library. All meetings are open to the public. Please contact one of the current officers if you would like an item discussed at an upcoming meeting.

Meeting Dates:

2011

- ◆ October 18 - Annual Meeting
- ◆ November 15

2012

- ◆ January 26 - Winter Gala
- ◆ April 17
- ◆ May 15
- ◆ September 18
- ◆ October 16 - Annual Meeting

We're on the Web!

Westwood Neighborhood Association meeting minutes and newsletters are available online:

www.neighborhoodlink.com/desmoines

"A community is like a ship; everyone ought to be prepared to take the helm."

Henrik Ibsen
1828-1906

Westwood Traditions – Old and New

National Night Out

The Westwood Neighborhood National Night Out event was again graciously hosted by Westwood neighbor Bernie Burke. The poolside party was well attended by adults and children. The perfect summer feast of hot dogs and ice cream was served. Kids enjoyed the pool and its slide in particular.

An annual event held across the country in August, National Night Out promotes neighborhood communities, focusing on the development of police and community partnerships to reduce crime in neighborhoods. A local police officer joined our gathering and presented our neighborhood association with the NNO proclamation from the City. Our Westwood neighborhood liaison within the Police Department is Lieutenant Joe Gonzalez, available at jagonzalez@dmgov.org.



1st Annual 51st Street Block Party

August 26, 2011 51st was the 1st Annual Block Party for 51st Street. The street was closed to traffic between Robertson and Grand, and the event ran from 6 to 11 p.m. It was a lovely evening, and approximately 100 people came out to enjoy fantastic food and the company of neighbors. Kids enjoyed activities such as face painting, bubbles, croquet, sidewalk chalk, and bike riding in the street. There was even an old fashioned game of *Kick the Can!* The evening was so successful that families on 51st Street hope to make it an annual event! The 51st Street Block Party was organized by the Beeman Family. Linda Beeman reports that it was easy to organize the party and that the city of Des Moines was very helpful regarding the logistics. If you want to organize your own Block Party the information

can be found online at www.dmgov.org. Click on "Department" then "City Manager" and then "Forms" to find the required "Resident Street Use and Agreement." The city asks that you plan the event 30 days in advance and that you provide a rain date. The cost of the permit is \$25 (\$10 additional if event lasts beyond sunset).



SCRUB Day is coming this month

Saturday, October 15th (7 a.m. to 1 p.m.) is our neighborhood SCRUB day. Location is Roosevelt High School at the 45th and Chamberlain parking lot. Show an ID or current utility bill and you can drop off trash of all sorts for no charge. All yard waste may be dropped off free of charge at the MWA Metro Compost Center at 1601 Harriet Street. Details can be found online at: www.dmgov.org/Departments/Public Works/ScrubCalendar.apx

Shortest 4th of July Parade in Des Moines

The neighbors of 49th Street have a 4th of July tradition that dates back approximately 30 years. Anyone can participate in a 4th of July Parade that begins at the southern end of the street and ends at Bill and Maureen Tiffany's home. Those who would rather watch can line up along 49th Street and cheer on the decorated bikes, scooters, strollers, dogs, and even a boat this year. Bill and Maureen have been hosting this patriotic and fun event for approximately 30 years. No one at this year's event could quite identify the exact year this tradition began but all there are thrilled that it continues.



Naked Ladies of Westwood

Welker Avenue resident Lydia Berry, a 6th grader at Merrill Middle School, contributed this article and a photo she took this summer of the "Naked Ladies" of Westwood:

Recently I had the opportunity to interview Mr. Schumaker, my neighbor, about the hundreds of "Naked Ladies" growing in his back yard. He planted them 30 years ago, and they have been arriving biannually for all 30 years! He has been living in his home for over 40 years also. He started with a thousand bulbs that his daughter helped him collect.

Mr. Schumaker chose this flower since it survives droughts, floods, and needs close to no attention beside the common mowing at the end of the season. He chose the color since pink is the only one that survives out of the other colors in this environment and since the deer do not eat this flower. He told me that he has gotten complaints at times about the smell of the flowers. Overall, he has received compliments over the 30 years these "Ladies" have been arriving. I know I enjoy seeing them every season!



Snow Ordinance

Reminder for new residents and old: All Westwood Neighborhood streets are designated "Snow Priority" streets by the city. This means that when an inch or more of snow falls, all cars must be off all streets. Cars that remain parked on a street may be ticketed.

Any questions about this city program may be addressed to: Bruce Braun
babraun@dmgov.org



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Westwood Neighborhood Association Members

Your support can help great things happen in Westwood! Membership cost is \$25 for a family or \$15 for an individual. If your name is not below, your membership has lapsed. To join or renew your membership, just complete and return the enclosed membership card.

*A warm welcome to all new members (indicated by an asterisks following their name).

Allen, Jason
Anderson, Marcus & Mary
Antoniou, George & Christy *
Aspengren, Mary Lou
Baldwin, Patricia
Bannister, Scott & Kathy
Barr, Judson & Heidi
Barron, Xavier & Kristen *
Barzen, David & Kristy
Bates, Dennis & Sally
Beane, Ron & Virginia *
Beh, Carleton & Mary
Bell, Jim & Barbara
Berry, Dr. Greg & Maria
Bertness, Scott & Nancy
Boesen, Bryan & Betsy
Bookey, Harry & Pam
Brooks, Steve & Katie
Brown, Kendall & Diane
Brown, Peter & Lisa
Burgeson, John & Colleen
Burke, Bernie, Stephanie Preusch
Caldbeck, Garry & Debbie
Campbell, Jan & Bo
Cary, Daniel & Tiffani
Christensen, Scott & Debby
Church, Barbara
Clark, Brian & Ann Reinhart
Clemens, Maxine
Clemenson, Jane
Clutter, Ryan & Vicki Sehgal
Coffman, Garth & Celene Gogerty
Coppie, Vincent & Susan
Cownie, Drew & Christine
Davis, Ron & Agnes
DeBord, Dave & Kristi Sutton
DenHartog, Rob & Brenda Currans
Downing, Dr. Wendell & Joyce
Eckhouse, Herb & Kathy
Engler, Joan
Faber, Vern & Nancy
Fisher, Bob
Fleming, James & Allison
Fox, Cynthia
Freude, Jeff & Laurie Wolf
Fuller, Steve & Deborah
Fulton, Jason & Diane Kuhn
Furstenau, Bob & Valerie Landis
Galeazzi, Dennis & Nancy
Galenbeck, Scott & Leann Treloar
Gleson, Lisa
Gottschalk, Mary
Grannes, Dean & Stephanie
Haakinson, Bill & Lori *

Heggen, Dr. Bill & Lynn
Heiken, Thomas & Vicki
Hemminger, David & Jane
Hetherington, Dr. Peter & Sue
Hogan, Brady & Allison
Horstmann, Rick & Laura
Huber, Rory & Marti
Hull, Marg
James, Fred & Rose *
Jessen, Jeremy & Janel Brown
Kahl, Andrew & Peg Roy
Karas, Kiera & Chris
Katz, John *
Keene, Sheila
Keller, Mike & Rick Marura
Kelley, Enosh & Rachel
Kenworthy, John & Lisa
Kisch, Thomas & Margo Hutcheson
Kramer, Randy
Krantz, Mary
LaValle, Michael & Lisa
Lem Mon, Jean
Leon, Luis & Katie *
Lindstrom, Matt & Krista Mattsen
Linebaugh, Jesse & Melissa
Lonning, Craig & Judy
Lorber, Fred & Mickey
Ludwig, Bill & Joyce
Lyford, Dick & Barb
Maas, Tyler & Kim Feaker *
Mackaman, David & Laura
Mackrell, Scott & Amy
Marquardt, Steve & Sara
McGreevy, Jeanette
McKinney, Alissa
Medick, Jason & Daughters
Meehan, Judith
Melton, Mark
Michelson, Brent & Ann
Mouw, Matthew & Mary
Moyer, Debra
Mullins, Dan & Laurie
Munier, Shirley
Murphy, John & Sharon
Murphy, Kathy
Nesbit, John & Ann
Olson, Gretchen
Pederson, Dennis & Cheryl
Peterson, Mike & Margart
Petrov, Vasil *
Pokorny, David & Betsy
Pollard, David & Stephanie
Pollard, Tom & Julita
Pomerantz, Rose Lee

Post, Scott & Diane
Rabinowitz, Sheldon & Roselind
Rask, Rick & LaRayne Lilley
Rasley, June
Ray, Robert & Billie
Raymond, Chad & Brian Ryerson
Reece, Dr. Mark & Barb
Reynolds, Dennis & Charlotte *
Richards, Mike & Leighton *
Rosenberg, Dr. Steven & Tracy
Rosenberg, Dr. Harlan & Audrey
Sammon, Brad and Jenny
Satterstrom, Bill & Virginia
Schroeder, Diane
Scott, Debora
Shadur, Dr. Craig & Kimberly
Shiffler, Bryan & Lyn
Shumaker, Bill
Smith, Val & Elizabeth
Spevak, James
Steger, Dee Dee
Stevenson, Peter & Barb
Bremner
Strief, Charles & Peggy
Swift, Tom & Roni *
Tatge, Bob & Sandy
Taylor, Dawn
Tegrotenhuis, Jeff
Tempero, Howard & Megan
Textor, Jack & Susan
Thompson, Jeff & Dianna
Tiffany, Bill & Maureen
Tiffany, John & Laura Martino
Townsend, Rod & Jenny *
Truslow, Ed & Nancy
Tuel, Larry
Urban, Tom & Mary
Van Hon, Thomas
Ver Steeg, Dr. Dirk & Adele
Voss, Zachary & Sara
Wallace, Sam & Sally
Walsh, Phil & Sharon
Weitenhagen, Dean
Westlund, Bob & Nancy *
White, Toby & Ruth
Williams, Ted & Nancy
Windsor, Stephanie
Winter, Kathy
Wirt, Brian & Kelly
Wolnerman, Michael & Missy
Young, Linda
Zeiner, Andy
Zisko, Tom & Dena Goblerud
Zuck, David & Amy

Westwood News is published quarterly and distributed to all residents of Westwood by wonderful, volunteer neighborhood captains. We welcome contributions for the News. Please email any contributions or suggestions to: barb.bremner@gmail.com.